

PREFACE

The purpose of this training circular (TC) is to provide commanders and their staffs with a framework for planning and executing fire coordination exercises (FCX) in a modern training environment. The FCX focuses on the execution of maneuver unit tasks critical to the successful synchronization of direct and indirect fires with maneuver at the basic level. All the other critical battlefield operating systems (BOS) are not addressed in the FCX, which is limited to the basic coordination of indirect fires with maneuver forces. The whole purpose of the FCX is to train maneuver commanders in the art of synchronization, at its very basic level. Once this level is mastered, maneuver training involves all of the combat multipliers in a more advanced training environment, the situational training exercise (STX).

Chapter 1 provides an overview and concept for TC 71-5. It also includes a brief description of the various training aids, devices, simulators, and simulations (TADSS) currently fielded or under development. It also includes a recommended training frequency chart and a chart showing which TADSS support the training of specific BOS functions according to the unit's echelon. This chart is designed to assist commanders in selecting the appropriate training exercise to meet their identified training requirements.

Chapter 2 provides a framework for developing and executing coordination exercises using simulation based training aids. The chapter covers constructive and virtual simulation training aids. Each section includes a detailed description of the simulation based training aid as well as describing the advantages and limitations of each simulation based training aid.

Chapter 3 provides a framework for developing and executing coordination exercises using various training techniques. These techniques include multiple integrated laser engagement system (MILES) for force-on-force training and tank weapons gunnery simulation system (TWGSS), precision gunnery system (PGS), and the various subcaliber training devices for precision gunnery training exercises. One section covers the various training devices available including a more detailed description of the training device as well as describing the advantages and limitations of each training device. A second section covers scaled ranges and a third section covers full-scale coordination exercises.

Chapter 4 provides sample scenarios for the execution of FCXs and tasks to be trained based on movement to contact, defense in sector, and hasty attack missions at company through brigade level. Also included is an appendix detailing the resources required to physically prepare the FCX training site.

TC 71-5 is designed to be used by armored and mechanized companies, battalions, and brigades or similar type organizations whose missions include engaging enemy forces by direct and indirect fires. The primary examples throughout this publication are focused on heavy forces, due to the high costs of full-scale exercises for those type units. It is applicable for both the active and reserve components of the total Army.

This publication is consistent with the current series of training manuals FM 25-100, FM 25-101, FM 71-1, FM 71-2, and FM 71-3.

The proponent of this publication is HQ TRADOC. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to Commander, United States Army Armor Center, ATTN: ATZK-TDD-B, Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121-5000.

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.